

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ADP-00 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-11 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07

OPIC-12 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 SAL-01 OMB-01 SCI-06

NSF-04 IO-12 CU-04 NSC-10 SS-15 STR-08 CEA-02 L-03

H-02 DODE-00 PA-03 USIA-12 PRS-01 GAC-01 COA-02 INT-08

CG-00 RSR-01 /222 W

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R 091749 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0387

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 04180

E. O. 11652: XGDS- L

TAGS: PFOR, MX, UK

SUBJECT: ECHEVERRIA VISIT TO LONDON

REF: LONDON 4026

1. EMBOFF CALLED ON LATIN AMERICAN DEPARTMENT HEAD HUNTER TO DISCUSS ECHEVERRIA VISIT. HUNTER SAID THAT ALTHOUGH A GOOD DEAL OF CEREMONY HAD BEEN WORKED INTO THE PROGRAM, THERE HAD BEEN SERIOUS DISCUSSIONS.
 2. ECHEVERRIA' S MAIN PITCH IN BRITAIN CONCERNED TRADE AND FOREIGN INVESTMENT. HE TOLD BRITISH THAT MEXICO WANTED TO ESTABLISH A TRADE CENTER IN EUROPE AND LONDON IS A LEADING CONTENDER AS A SITE. MEXICO HOPES TO BE
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ABLE TO ATTRACT EUROPEAN INVESTMENT INDUSTRIES WHICH WILL BOOST MEXICO'S EXPORT POTENTIAL. ECHEVERRIA SPENT SOME TIME TALKING TO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE TREASURY AND THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY. WITH THE LATTER HE PLACED A GOOD DEAL OF STRESS ON MEXICO'S NEED FOR TECHNOLOGY TO COPE WITH ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS. THE BRITISH ARE PREPARED TO RESPOND AND INDEED A TEAM OF BRITISH TECHNICIANS HAS BEEN WORKING FOR SOME TIME IN MEXICO CITY.

3. IN HIS TALKS WITH FOREIGN SECRETARY SIR ALEC DOUGLAS-HOME, ECHEVERRIA BEGAN BY SAYING THAT MEXICO'S RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES WERE VERY GOOD, BUT NOW SHE WANTED TO BRANCH OUT AND SEEK CLOSER CONTACTS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES. SIR ALEC BROUGHT UP THE SUBJECT OF THE UN CHARTER OF ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND DUTIES WHICH MEXICO HAS BEEN PUSHING. HUNTER SAID THAT SIR ALEC SOON REGRETTED HAVING DONE SO AS HE WAS TREATED TO A NON- STOP MONOLOGUE BY ECHEVERRIA ABOUT THE INEQUITIES OF THE WORLD ECONOMIC SYSTEM ALONG LINES WHICH ARE WELL KNOWN BY NOW TO THOSE WHO HAVE DEALT WITH MEXICANS. THE UK HAS MANY RESERVATIONS ABOUT THE PROPOSED CHARTER BUT WERE UNABLE TO MAKE MUCH OF A DENT ON ECHEVERRIA.
 4. EMBOFF ASKED IF LAW OF SEA OR FISHING RIGHTS CAME UP DURING LONDON DISCUSSIONS. HUNTER SAID THEY DID NOT, ALTHOUGH BRITS WERE ANTICIPATING IT. AS A POSSIBLY RELATED MATTER, HOWEVER, MEXICO WILL PURCHASE SOME PATROL CRAFT FROM THE UK. HUNTER WAS VAGUE ABOUT THE DETAILS OF THE PURCHASE WHICH WAS FINALIZED DURING ECHEVERRIA VISIT.
 5. BRITISH, LIKE ECHEVERRIA'S PREVIOUS HOSTS, FOUND HIM VERY VOLUBLE. ON OCCASION HE HAD TO BE RESTRAINED BY HIS FOREIGN MINISTER. HUNTER SAID ECHEVERRIA
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THOUGHT HIS CANADIAN VISIT HAD BEEN A GREAT SUCCESS.

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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